

0041-0619-3



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K. Cole
8/22/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Ryuichi ISHIKAWA, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 3729

SERIAL NO: 09/160,581 :

RCE FILED: Herewith : EXAMINER: CHANG, R

FOR: A METHOD FOR CUTTING
AN OPTICAL FIBER

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated April 17, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

A clean copy of the claims incorporating any amendment is shown below.

Please amend Claim 5 and add new Claims 11-16 as follows:

5. (Thrice Amended) A method for cutting an optical fiber, for cutting the optical fiber by moving a cutting blade, comprising a step of moving the cutting blade having a blade thickness α (mm) at a speed β (mm/minute) relative to the optical fiber during the cutting, wherein $\beta \leq -253\alpha + 65$ (mm/minute), and when the speed β is positive, the cutting blade moves in a direction for cutting the optical fiber.